



July 28, 2005

Dr. E. Leroy Tolles
ELT & Associates
251 Lafayette Circle, Suite 230
Lafayette, CA 94549

Re: Response to Comments
Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND)
Rancho San Andrés Castro Adobe Seismic Stabilization Project

Dear Dr. Tolles:

Thank you for your comments during the public review period for the above project. Your interest in this project is appreciated and it is hoped that the following responses will help to answer your questions and concerns regarding this project.

Your comments express concern that the size and number of the center core-drilled rods called for in the proposed design of the project are excessive.

DPR has reviewed your suggestion in keeping with the "small core" design criteria as recommended by the Historic Structure Report (HSR). After further evaluation, DPR is reducing the core size in the seismic stabilization design from 6 inches to 3 inches, and reducing the quantity in the main structure from 42 cores to 31 cores. Additionally, the design will carefully consider the location of the cores as they relate to openings such as doors and windows.

As stated in the draft IS/MND the project will comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for historic structure rehabilitation and the California Historic Building Code.

In response to your comments, the following changes will be made to the Final MND:

Appendix B, Drawings 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4 (floor plans and framing plans), will be revised to reflect the smaller size (3 inches) and quantity (31) of the center cores.

As further clarification, the following insignificant modifications will be made to the Final MND:

Chapter 3, Section V. Cultural Resources, page 26, Mitigation Measure Cult-1, 4th bullet will be revised to read:

- The general recommendations of the RSA Castro Historic Structure Report will be used to determine design and construction criteria.

Chapter 3, Section VI. Geology and Soils, page 31, Mitigation Measure Geo-1, 1st bullet will be revised to read:

- This project will stabilize and seismically retrofit the Adobe according to earthquake design requirements as specified in the current version of the California Historical Building Code, California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 8, and the general recommendations in the 2003 Seismic Evaluation and Retrofit Report by E. Leroy Tolles of ELT and Associates (included as part of the 2003 Historic Structures Report).

Enclosed please find the preliminary revision of Drawing 2.1. The final revised set of drawings will be available within approximately 90 days. Please contact me if you would like to see the revised drawings. I may be reached at (916) 445-8827 or gsevr@parks.ca.gov.

You may also see copies of all comments received and responses regarding this project on the DPR website at http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=982.

Dr. Tolles, I would like to take the opportunity to wholeheartedly thank you for the time, energy, and assistance you have provided for this vital project. Thank you again for your comments and interest.

Sincerely,

Gail Sevrems
Associate Park and Recreation Specialist

Enclosure: Preliminary Revised Drawing 2.1